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VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THREE HUNDRED AND FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at Flushing Meadow, New York,
on Friday, 8 June 1951, at 2.00 p.m.

President: Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom)

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.348 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF ADMINISTERING AUTHORITIES ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF TRUST TERRITORIES: SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION, APRIL 1950-
DECEMBER 1950 (T/902; T/L.170)

The PRESIDENT: Today we shall begin the examination of the first report of the Administering Authority on Somaliland under Italian administration for the nine months' period April-December, 1950.

We have with us today the representatives of the States members of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland, and I welcome them in the name of the Council.

I shall now invite the representative of the Administering Authority to open the discussion, but first I understand that the representative of Thailand would like to say a few words.

Prince WAN WAITHAYAKON (Thailand): As Chairman of the Petitions Committee I would ask those members of the Council who are not members of the Committee to submit their observations on the review of the organization of the Committee by Thursday next, 14 June.

The PRESIDENT: I think also it would be convenient if we could fix a day for the final receipt of questions regarding the Trust Territory of Tanganyika, and I suggest that Wednesday, 13 June, would be a suitable day. I would ask members to send their questions relating to the Trust Territory of Tanganyika to the Secretariat not later than that date. I now call upon the representative of Italy.

Mr. GUIDOTTI (Italy) (Interpretation from French): It is a source of great satisfaction for me, as representative of the Government of Italy, to see the Trusteeship Council commence today the consideration of the first report drawn up by the Italian Administration of Somaliland. The President is doubtless aware that this report covers the period between 1 April 1950, the day when the Administration of the Territory was passed over to Italy, and December 1950. That period was a delicate one indeed, since the Administration had to face the most immediate problems of public order while at the same time approaching the tasks of education, social reconstruction and economic reconstruction which are the indispensable conditions for the growth of a new state.

I am sure that in the debate which is about to take place here these trying conditions will be borne in mind. The Trusteeship Council, for its part, may expect our complete, sincere and most loyal co-operation in its efforts. Our only desire is to seek together the best ways and means of carrying out our difficult task. The Italian Government considers that the sending of the Visiting Mission which is to go to Somaliland should be the best way of ensuring close co-operation between the Italian Administration of Somaliland and the Trusteeship Council.

In the same spirit and, in particular, as a token of our desire to furnish complete and authoritative information to the Council, the Government of Italy has instructed the Administrator of the Territory, Mr. Fornari, to place himself entirely at the disposal of the Council. Mr. Fornari is here now and I request the President kindly to invite him to take a seat at the Council table.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Fornari, Special Representative for Somaliland under Italian Trusteeship, took a place at the Council table.

The PRESIDENT: I should like to welcome Mr. Fornari in the name of the Council. We shall be very glad to hear anything he has to tell us about Somaliland under Italian Trusteeship.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative for Somaliland under Italian Trusteeship) (Interpretation from French): First of all I venture to express my satisfaction and happiness at being permitted to come before the Trusteeship Council to present the report of the Italian Government on the administration of Somaliland under Italian Trusteeship for the period April-December of last year. I am entirely at the disposal of the Council and its members with regard to any information which they may wish to elicit on the report as a whole and on its details, and shall be very happy to bear in mind any suggestions or recommendations that they may wish to address to us. The administration of Somaliland, as conceived by resolution 289 (IV) of the General Assembly and the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement, and as interpreted by the Administering Authority in the spirit and the letter of the Charter of San Francisco and the recommendations of the General Assembly, would only stand to gain from close co-operation with all the organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations in general and of the Trusteeship Council in particular.

This first report covers the period between April to December 1950. The Administration did not think it necessary to wait until the end of the first year for a number of reasons. First, it did not wish to postpone until the next session of the Trusteeship Council the consideration of our work. Such a postponement would have been inevitable if we had waited until 31 March, the time when the first year of our administration will be completed. Furthermore, we thought it preferable to submit a special report covering the period of provisional administration, the administration of Somaliland having become definitive only on 2 December 1950, when the General Assembly approved the Trusteeship Agreement.

The purpose of this report is not only to outline the results of the work accomplished between April and December 1950, but also to make available to the organs of the United Nations which have the task of following the activities of the Administration a picture, as exact and detailed as possible, of the administration of the Territory when it was definitively handed over to the Italian authorities.

The most important occurrence in that period was the adoption by the Assembly, with 44 votes in favour out of 50, of the resolution approving the Geneva Agreement. As of the date of that resolution the ten years Trusteeship regime begins. At the end of that ten year period, Somaliland will become an independent and sovereign state. Thus, its situation is quite different from the situation of other Trust Territories. The second very important difference lies in the following. In Somaliland there is a Consultative Council composed of the representatives of Colombia, Egypt and the Philippines, whose task it is to assist the Administration in its work. The period of preliminary work has served to prove the value of continuous, direct and trustful co-operation between all the authorities concerned. It is my privilege in this Council to pay a tribute to the spirit of understanding and objectivity that has characterized the Advisory Council and the Trusteeship Council itself. I should like to tender the thanks of the Administration, and particularly of the peoples of Somaliland.

The road to be covered within ten years in order to reach a level of development and intellectual progress appropriate for independence is a difficult one. The Italian Administration, while wishing to declare its determination to complete the task within the time set, does not wish to conceal the difficulties that are implicit in this task.

The main difficulties are: (1) the low cultural level of the Somalis; (2) their lack of political maturity; (3) their backward social structure; and (4) the backward economic conditions of the Territory.

These are four different facets of the same polyhedron, all of which, however, have to be taken as an entity. All of these points have to be attacked together, but in a balanced manner so that there should be no disturbance that would upset the delicate balance of the Territory.

A sector where we can proceed more decisively and build courageously is in the field of education. The most advanced indigenous people hardly have a primary education. Sometimes they have some notions of secondary education, but that is just about all. The effort we are now about to undertake is a tremendous one. During the first year the number of teachers more than doubled, the number of classes increased from 100 to 267, and the number of students increased from 2,826 to more than seven thousand.

The Administration has set up, ex novo, an arts and crafts school, a secondary school and an administrative and political school for Somali officials. It has set up development courses for teachers as well as for employees and nurses.

A school for junior officers has been established, and also a school for mechanics. Other schools will be added to these throughout the country. The number of classes and teachers will be increased considerably within the next few years. A complete plan of education is being studied. Many specialists are to be trained, and the level of general education is to be raised. However, I must say that the task before us is a tremendous one. All that we shall be able to accomplish will still be very little compared to the tremendous amount that will still be left to be done.

There is a problem between mass education and the education of an elite. As between these two, we have to take the first alternative in order to avoid the formation of a small group that would monopolize the cultural education

and thus degenerate into an oligarchy.

As regards the lack of the political maturity of the people and of their present leadership, there can be only one possible solution, and that is a universal one, namely experience. For this reason, as well as for many others which I shall mention shortly, the first concern of the Administration is to set up organs within which Somalis may gradually become accustomed to the forms of democracy and develop a concern for the welfare of the commonwealth above the interests of individuals or tribes.

We started with two referenda: one concerned the language that was to be used for education along with Italian; the other concerned the composition of the Territorial Council. Resident Councils were set up along with organs of municipal self-government. Thus, the Somalis have a whole hierarchy of representative organs which make it possible for them to co-operate in the work of the Administrative Authorities while, at the same time, familiarizing themselves with the practices of democratic deliberative assemblies. To all these organs have to be added a number of higher councils of a technical character: the School Council and the Health Council; 900 Somalis are working in these bodies, thus participating in the executive and legislative government of the Territory in an advisory basis. Added to that are the Somalis working in the central administration and in the peripheral organs, making the number more than three thousand five hundred.

One of the gravest problems before us is the one related to the backwardness of the social structure of the country. I do not wish to abuse the patience and the time of the members of the Trusteeship Council in painting a picture of that social structure. I think that it resembles the structure of a number of other countries of Africa, which the Council has already examined. It is a tribal structure -- a consequence of the history and economy of the Territory. The people are composed for the most part of nomadic shepherds whose only concern for centuries has been to move from one region to another seeking pastures and water for their cattle and themselves. Suddenly, these people have come into contact with more advanced peoples belonging to ancient civilizations with a higher standard of living, thus inspiring new principles and ideas. The results of such contacts usually come about rather fast, particularly in the populated centres and among those people who are in close contact with it, such as employees and servants. New ideas begin to arise in their minds and new currents of social

thought begin to take birth. Progressive and nationalist elements begin to be formed in the minds of these people. Although they do not have the ability to enjoy the fruits of experience, they are in a hurry to change everything so as to be able to get to the standard of living that they see among their masters.

These new currents have to be fostered and developed, because it is among these ideas that the Africans will find new paths of life. But it would be an irreparable error to seek to destroy in one fell swoop the entire tribal administration without having something ready to replace it, because only trouble, civil war and chaos would ensue unless the thing were done in a considered manner. The tribal organization represents, of course, one of the most backward stages of human organization and one that entirely contradicts the principles that govern the self-determination of peoples and democracy and popular sovereignty.

I see only one possible path: ^{on the one hand,} /to hasten the evolution of tribes toward a territorial political structure while encouraging an evolution of their social structure which would make them look at the village, rather than the tribe, as a centre of activity -- in other words, a territorial rather than a tribal basis -- and, on the other hand, to set up wherever possible, in cities and towns and villages, alongside the tribal organization, a territorial governmental organization which would be able gradually to take over from the tribal organization. The Territorial Council and the Residence Councils which are already formed, the Municipal Councils which are being set up, may be regarded as the first elements of this new sort of organization which would supersede the tribal organization: while consisting partly of representatives of tribes, they meet for the first time in Somali history to discuss not questions relating to their respective kabiles but questions that concern the entire Territory.

Alongside these political and social questions, of which I have given a very general sketch, there will be another problem which I think is the crucial problem of the Territory -- and that, of course, is the problem of economics and finances.

In the report which is before the Council, an attempt is made to outline the economic conditions of the Territory, whose resources are poor and limited. More than 50 per cent of the civilian expenses are defrayed by the Italian budget. The expenditures are 55,907,454 somalos for the fiscal year of 1951-52; the total income is 25,380,130 somalos, while the Italian State contributes 30,527,324 somalos. Expenses for the Corps of Territorial Security are entirely defrayed by the Italian State. This also covers expenses for the training of local military units, as well as expenses for certain services which now are being operated by the Security Corps but which have a civilian character, such as the radio-communications services, the aerial communications services within the Territory, the port services, and the management of such things as navigation facilities.

Considerable economic sacrifices will have to be made in order to hasten the economic advancement of the Territory and its progress. But, after all, there is a time limit within which all of that can be done. What is done in the interests of the Territory will be done in the interests of the future Somali State, which will have only its own resources to count on. If it depends on the outside for a considerable part of its budget, then its independence will be only illusory. Therefore, we can only give to the new State an economic structure which will have to be balanced by its resources. It is our duty to increase these resources so as to be able progressively to diminish the Italian contribution.

It is not only a question of studying a general revision of local income sources, but particularly it is a question of developing the economy of the country in such a manner that automatically the standard of living will improve, while at the same time, of course, raising the level of the internal revenue of the State. For that purpose, of course, it is necessary to import capital. The Italian State has already taken over a considerable part of the expenses that are incurred now. Over and above that, with the co-operation of certain Italian banking organizations, financial projects are under study for the private development of certain economic activities in the Territory. But that also will not be sufficient. Contributions by international financial organizations may doubtless constitute a very special source of assistance. For that we count on the help of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies. Unfortunately the different plans and programmes studied thus far do not envisage genuine international capital investments in under-developed areas; the formula of technical assistance was set up instead. I hope that this obvious gap will be filled in one way or another.

As regards private capital, no Italian or foreign group is now in a position to make great investments in Somaliland. But if confidence could be created, in the sense that in the new Somali State vested interests and acquired rights would be protected, then that might perhaps remedy the state of affairs in which capital is not encouraged to invest.

The attitude of the population, of its chiefs and of the political parties during these first years will be an element of enormous importance in that respect. That is what will have to be said and repeated to the political leaders of Somaliland. That is what my assistants and I will continue to preach over the years. There is no doubt that some form of international guarantee of private capital, covering a period longer than the one contemplated for Italian trusteeship, would strengthen confidence, encourage the investment of private capital, and thus hasten the economic development of the Territory, so as to create at once a favourable atmosphere for international economic assistance to Somaliland even after the years of trusteeship.

I should like to draw the attention of the Trusteeship Council particularly to these problems. I beg the Council to take these problems into account so as to help the economic progress of the Territory and lay solid foundations for its future independence.

The Italian Administration is alive to the great responsibilities of the task which it has undertaken in the spirit, and according to the recommendations, of the United Nations. Our greatest and loftiest mission is to make it possible for the people of Somaliland to obtain a better future and to prepare them for independence with full respect for fundamental rights and freedoms. To that end, we favour a gradual evolution toward a representative democratic regime which would duly take into account the traditional institutions of the people.

This first report will make it possible for the Trusteeship Council to evaluate and assess the situation as it obtains now, at the commencement of our mission. This, in turn, will help the work of our administration. It will make it possible for us to pursue our path as charted by the United Nations, bolstered by faith in our common ideals of peace, liberty and democracy.

The PRESIDENT: The Trusteeship Council is grateful to the Special Representative for his interesting statement.

Mr. HOLTE-CASTELLO (Colombia) (interpretation from French): First of all, I wish to thank the President for the greeting he has given to me and my colleagues on the Advisory Council.

The Trusteeship Council can learn from document A/AC.33/W34 of the activities of the Advisory Council from the time it began functioning in Mogadishu until 31 March 1951. It appears to us that that document reflects the developments accurately, but we should like to define here the attitude of our delegation, from a political and juridical angle, with regard to the role of the Advisory Council in its work of advising the Administering Authority.

The document can be divided into three parts: the question of relations with the population; the problem of relations with the Administering Authority; and a summary of the results of the collaboration between the Advisory Council and the Administering Authority -- problems of a general nature now confronting the Council.

I shall now deal with the first section, the question of relations with the population.

The Trusteeship Agreement does not explicitly mention relations between the Advisory Council and the population. Since, however, it is the essential object of the Agreement to satisfy the interests and aspirations of the population, it is not easy to see how the Advisory Council, as the Administering Authority's partner "in the attainment of the objectives ... of the Agreement", can perform its function unless it is accurately informed regarding the opinions and feelings of the different groups of the Territory's population. Article 9 of the Agreement makes it possible for the Advisory Council to obtain this information.

In fact, the population of Somaliland, unfamiliar with legal concepts which seem normal to a person schooled in our legal thinking, considers that the United Nations, through its local organ, is there to assist it and to ensure that the general principles by which the United Nations is guided should also form the basis of the work of the Italian Administration. Consequently, the inhabitants -- and more particularly the political parties -- have endeavoured to maintain permanent contact with the members of the Advisory Council, both through hearings and by means of written requests. It would have been impossible for the members of the Advisory Council to refuse to hear the population or the spokesmen of the different population groups or trends of opinion, since such an attitude would certainly have injured United Nations prestige.

If this view is accepted, the form of the Advisory Council's relations with the population is of considerable importance, since two basic factors must be taken into account: first, in the case of written requests, the competence of the General Assembly and of the Trusteeship Council with regard to petitions, since such requests generally take the form of actual petitions dealing with the working of the trusteeship system; second, in the case of relations with the population other than those arising out of written requests -- and, in particular, in the case of relations with the political parties, the actual basis of the Council's terms of reference, its function of aiding and advising an Administration which is responsible to the United Nations.

With regard to the first basic factor, relating to petitions, the Advisory Council has always acted in an informal, unofficial manner in its relations with the Administration, by offering its good offices for the settlement of matters brought to its notice. These unofficial steps were, in the opinion of the Colombian delegation, within the scope of "observations and recommendations ... conducive to the attainment of the objectives of this Agreement". Moreover, it was possible through the use of this procedure to place the Trusteeship Council and its Committee, when they came to examine the petitions, in the position of dealing not with problems awaiting solution but with matters settled in concert with the Administering Authority.

For convenience, the petitions or communications received were classified under three headings: (a) petitions addressed to the Advisory Council, which were immediately forwarded to the Secretary-General; (b) petitions addressed to the Administration and, for information, to the Advisory Council -- in this case, the procedure used by the petitioners was in effect an invitation to mutual consultations between the Advisory Council and the Administering Authority; and (c) petitions on matters with regard to which the Advisory Council had previously been asked to express an opinion and which naturally also called for similar consultations.

While this classification may seem satisfactory from the point of view of logic, it is of little or no value in practice. Regardless of the addressee, the petitions dealt with identical subjects and, so far as general principles were concerned, all naturally tended to necessitate consultations between the Advisory Council and the Administering Authority concerning the problems raised.

The Advisory Council and the Administering Authority reached agreement on the principle and methods of their unavoidable co-operation. The Colombian delegation feels that this co-operation has produced results beneficial to the population and should continue.

The representative of Colombia stated his views on the problem of petitions at the fifteenth and twenty-first meetings of the Advisory Council itself.

With regard to the second basic factor, regarding general relations with the population -- and, more particularly, with the political parties -- the representative of Colombia stated his position at the seventeenth meeting of the Advisory Council, when he said, on behalf of his delegation, that neither the Advisory Council as a body nor its individual members should interfere in any way with the activities of the political parties or with the internal political affairs of Somaliland. This position in no way implies that contacts with the inhabitants are ruled out. Nevertheless, in matters involving internal policy, action concerning political parties should be agreed upon with the Administering Authority. This does not mean that the Advisory Council should necessarily take the same attitude as the Administering Authority. In our view, however, such a procedure is in keeping with respect for the essential principle underlying the Advisory Council's terms of reference. It is difficult to see how, in matters of any importance, an organ established for the purpose of aiding and advising can take separate action, action independent of that taken by the responsible authority.

In short, the Colombian delegation took the view that the scope of the Advisory Council's function did not extend beyond unofficial consultations with the Administering Authority concerning petitions and joint action with regard to general relations with the population. Otherwise, the Advisory Council might conceivably encroach upon the competence of other United Nations organs or upon the rights which the Administration possesses by virtue of its responsibility. While leaving the Advisory Council wide scope for initiative, this practice left it free to act in the event of disagreement between the Council and the Administering Authority -- in which contingency the Trusteeship Council would be regarded as the obvious authority to which to apply for remedy.

I now turn to the second section, relations with Italy as the Administering Authority.

This problem is implicit, albeit indirectly, in the earlier discussion of the Advisory Council's relations with the population.

The following paragraphs contain an interpretation of certain articles of the Trusteeship Agreement concerning the Advisory Council's terms of reference as regards direct relations between the Advisory Council and the Administering Authority. At the fifth session of the General Assembly, the representative of Colombia, speaking as Chairman of the Advisory Council, explained the interpretation given.

In the first place, the Advisory Council has a right of initiative by virtue of the first paragraph of article 8, which reads, in part:

"The Advisory Council ... may make to the Administering Authority such observations and recommendations as it may consider will be conducive to the attainment of the objectives of this Agreement."

As we have seen, it has been possible to define the scope of the Council's relations with the population by means of a broad interpretation of this sentence. The sentence is also essentially applicable to direct relations between the Advisory Council and the Administering Authority. In this respect, the very general terms employed seem to confer a remarkably broad right of initiative on the Advisory Council. Similarly, the Advisory Council construed the Agreement to mean that the Administering Authority is under a very general duty to inform and to consult the Council.

So far as the duty to furnish information is concerned, article 8, paragraph 1 also says:

"The Advisory Council shall be fully informed by the Administering Authority on all matters relating to the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territory, including legislation appertaining thereto ..."

The equally general duty to consult the Advisory Council emerges from the terms of the second paragraph of the same article, which states, in part:

"The Administering Authority shall seek the advice of the Advisory Council on all measures envisaged for the inauguration, development and subsequent establishment of full self-government for the Territory; in particular it shall consult the Advisory Council regarding plans ...".

The words "in particular" gives clear evidence that article 8 does not contain an exhaustive enumeration of the subjects concerning which there is a duty to consult the Advisory Council.

Similarly, article 8, paragraph 3, read in conjunction with article 5 of the Annex and article 14, paragraph 2, of the Agreement, which require the Administering Authority to seek the advice of the Advisory Council in specified cases, merely emphasize points of special importance without conflicting with the general duty to consult the Advisory Council, stipulated in the first paragraph of article 8.

Finally, article 6, paragraph 2, which provides for mutual consultation with regard to the progressive development of Somali forces, is not inconsistent with this view and merely mentions a special aspect of a general obligation to act jointly.

When this view was argued in the Fourth Committee, the Colombian representative, basing his stand on the fact that the list in article 8 was not exhaustive, requested that the Administering Authority should include the budget among the matters on which the Administration would seek the advice of the Advisory Council.

The Administrator for Somaliland agreed to this request in the name of his delegation. (A/AC.33/W.34, page 18)

The view expressed in the Fourth Committee was supported by a number of delegations and was not challenged by any delegation.

The Colombian representative feels that he should clarify certain points in the statements he made at that time.

In applying the second paragraph of article 11 -- that is, whenever the Advisory Council or one of its members makes statements to the Trusteeship Council -- it should not be forgotten that there is a concurrent right to make observations and recommendations to the Administering Authority under article 8.

In the opinion of the Colombian delegation the fact that the Advisory Council is intended primarily to aid and advise implies certain procedures in the exercise of its right of intervention.

In particular, while it is natural that observations and recommendations to the Administering Authority should be critical whenever they are intended to repair omissions or to correct errors; it would also appear to be reasonable that the criticisms of the organ appointed to aid and advise should in the first instance be addressed to the Administering Authority; that is to say that the position taken by the members of the Advisory Council should not be a critical one in the Trusteeship Council unless the Administering Authority has refused to comply with any observations, recommendations or advice that the Council may have presented to it.

From this point of view the Trusteeship Council, which is the supervising organ of the Administering Authority, is the organ to be applied to by the Advisory Council after disagreements have occurred between the Advisory Council or one of its members and the Administering Authority.

I shall now deal with the third section on results.

The Colombian delegation now wishes to review briefly the results obtained by a wide interpretation of the terms of the Agreement, an interpretation which is in line with the arguments set forth above and on which there has been no disagreement between the Advisory Council and the Administering Authority.

Let us, first of all, consider the petitions. A large number of petitions or communications have formed the subject of exchanges of views between the Administering Authority and one of the members of the Council. In several cases the Council was informed unofficially of the steps taken by the Administering Authority or has received copies of replies sent to the petitioners

The question of the Baidoa refugees (A/AC.33/W.34, pages 22-25) provided an outstanding example of co-operation concerning petitions between the Council and the Administration.

It would almost be more accurate in this connexion to speak of joint action, so largely were the measures taken to solve this question the result of close contact and discussion.

Subsequently, when the Administering Authority requested the Council's advice, it gave the most scrupulous consideration to the latter's recommendation.

Of the requests for advice presented up to 31 March 1951, two related to the establishment of local organs of government and three to educational advancement. Hence, the Administration began by dealing with the most urgent of the political and social problems.

After a lapse of fourteen months a pyramidal structure of local organs of government has been established.

In a country in which nine-tenths of the population have no understanding of any political system other than the tribal system and in which an appreciable proportion of the remaining one tenth of the population are still strongly attached to that system, municipal councils have been established in the key towns in each Residency, which in many cases was a very small township. Residents' councils have been in operation everywhere for several months. The Territorial Council held its first session at the beginning of the year, and a small council which meets between sessions gives greater continuity to its work.

In each of those bodies the political parties are asked to express their views, and the Advisory Council has always taken the view that if the tribal system is to evolve gradually towards a system more in accord with modern democratic ideas the parties should be given a greater representation in the various councils than that corresponding to their real influence in the country. The Italian authorities fully concurred in this view, and the action it has taken has been in complete accord with the views expressed by the Council.

For the time being, however, those bodies are still largely the expression of a collective idea as expressed through the person of the tribal chiefs.

To enable the councils to reflect individual opinion as soon as possible, the Administration has, with the strong support of the Advisory Council, begun the establishment of statistical services which are to take a census of population as promptly as local conditions permit. Those operations will at least make it possible to prepare electoral lists and maps in the urban or semi-rural communities.

As mentioned above, apart from political questions the Administering Authority's efforts have been chiefly devoted to social questions. Particular attention has been given to education at its various levels.

The Administering Authority proceeded first of all to deal with the question of languages of instruction. The Trusteeship Council is aware of the attitude adopted on this question by the Advisory Council and that the Territorial Council unanimously agreed to take up a similar position.

In addition to the language of the Administering Authority a language of instruction had to be selected. The Advisory Council was guided in its choice not only by the provisions of article 4 of the Trusteeship Agreement, which stipulates that the system of education should have due regard for Islamic culture and religion, but also by practical considerations. Arabic was the language which met those requirements.

The advice given by the Advisory Council does not mean that it is overlooking the great desirability of establishing Somali as a language of instruction or of confirming it as the national language.

From the educational point of view alone the adoption of Somali would meet with many difficulties. To begin with, a Somali dialect which is universally acceptable must be selected ^{and} ^{devised} a script for an adopted language which has hitherto only been spoken; libraries must be established, textbooks published and a body of teachers trained for all levels of education. To do all this takes money and time, and even though such an operation may be undertaken it is difficult to conceive that it can be completed successfully within ten years.

As regards the results achieved, there is first of all the establishment of the preparatory political and administrative school, the object of which is to train the civil servants of the future Somali State.

In addition there is the general educational programme, which began during the provisional administration and under which the number of schools has increased from forty-seven to sixty-nine. The number of Italian-speaking or

Arabic-speaking teachers has been increased by seventy-five. Lastly, the number of pupils has risen from 3,000 to 7,000.

In conclusion, the spirit in which this instruction is given must be emphasized. It is expressed by the dissemination at all educational levels of information concerning the functioning and purposes of the United Nations (A/AC.33/AA.43/ED).

One year has elapsed, however, and the Administering Authority is dealing with economic development, another aspect of its task. This work was heralded by the applications for technical assistance made by the Italian Government on the Territory's behalf.

It is also reflected in the requests for advice presented to the Advisory Council. In April, the Council received, together with a request of a political nature, relating to the establishment of municipal councils throughout the Territory, a request for advice with regard to the exploitation of mineral resources (A/AC.33/R.19).

Since the question is one of such gravity and to no small extent governs the possibilities of developing the country economically, the Council was unwilling to give an opinion before seeking advice.

The Advisory Council's position on this question is particularly difficult because of the attitude taken up by the Indian representative in the Fourth Committee. He stated at the fifth session, 177th meeting, that:

"Article 14 of the draft trusteeship agreement was intended to safeguard the rights and interests of the indigenous population, particularly in regard to land and other natural resources. If long-term concessions were granted to the non-indigenous inhabitants or commercial interests, and if such concessions remained in force after 1960, the interests of the indigenous population might be seriously handicapped. During the transitional period of ten years, nothing should be done which might impede the economic, social and political development of Somaliland once that country had gained its independence and sovereignty."

None of the delegations challenged this argument.

The Administering Authority's argument is that, from the practical point of view, the governing factor in the development of natural resources and underground resources in particular is the grant of a valid guarantee to the private capital required for investment, which will extend over a period corresponding at least to the possibilities of amortizing such capital.

The peculiarity of the position of Italian Somaliland is that trusteeship is to be applied only for a period which is now less than ten years.

If it is agreed that the question of a valid guarantee is the determining factor, the question is: what authority is capable of giving such^a guarantee, and on what conditions?

It is difficult to see what authority could furnish such a guarantee, other than an international authority.

As regards the conditions governing the grant of such a guarantee, the authority capable of providing it has, in theory at least, a choice between widely differing possibilities. It can have recourse solely to national or foreign private capital, it can adopt the system of a mixed economy, under which the Italian State would hand over to the Somali State at the end of the trusteeship period, or it can adopt the system of State exploitation. It is an open question and it must be admitted that it has aspects of extreme complexity. To quote but one example, no solution has yet been found to the question of determining the nationality of capital in Somaliland and no solution would seem to be possible until the adoption of legislation relating to the nationality of persons.

The Colombian delegation realizes how desirable it is to solve this problem with a view to the possible transformation of the Somali economy and, hence, of the life of its inhabitants, and is anxious to learn what position the Trusteeship Council, as the supervising authority, is likely to adopt on this question, taking into account the special nature of the trusteeship in Somaliland.

The Colombian delegation has endeavoured to keep this statement quite general, since this method appeared to provide the Trusteeship Council with sufficient information.

This attempt at a summary review is based upon fourteen months of uninterrupted observation by the same representative.

The Advisory Council had received very wide terms of reference. It had to avoid -- and this was its constant concern -- trespassing upon the jurisdiction of other United Nations organs and upon the rights vested in the Administering Authority by virtue of this Authority's own responsibility.

Still, it had to act. In forging links with the population and laying the basis of co-operation with the Administration, it was undoubtedly inspired far more by the purposes of the Trusteeship System than by a strict interpretation of the texts. The Council and the Administering Authority concurred in this approach to the question.

It was, however, considered advisable to give a more or less detailed account of the procedures established so far and of those which it is desirable to establish, particularly in relations with the Trusteeship Council.

The Colombian delegation is convinced that the procedures already in operation have been beneficial to the Somali population.

It considers that their retention is likely to prove beneficial in the future, since they ensure constant exchanges of views and impressions between the population, the Administering Authority and the body which permanently represents the United Nations on the spot.

The PRESIDENT: Does any delegation wish to address questions to the Special Representative, who is available for that purpose?

Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq): I was struck by the remarks of the Special Representative in regard to the economy of the Territory. What he said was certainly very impressive. It calls for a great deal of thought and, no doubt, the Trusteeship Council will give it much thought.

I should like to ask the Special Representative what, on first thought, he would suggest in the field of economic development. What would he suggest should be done in collaboration with the specialized agencies or other organs of the United Nations to hasten the economic development of the country, no doubt for various reasons, but among them the purpose he primarily mentioned -- that the country should progress economically and be in a position to defray partly the expenses of its services? Has he anything in mind along the line of co-operation with the United Nations organs and the specialized agencies in such development?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative): (interpretation from French): The economic problem is in fact one of the most crucial for the future of the Territory; perhaps it is the crucial problem. The most important thing is to find capital. For a State to increase its receipts and resources in the long run, a considerable initial capital investment is necessary. Such capital may be public or private in origin. Therefore, there are two ways of envisaging economic development in Somaliland: either by finding public capital -- and Italy will help there -- though, of course, if the International Bank or some other international organ was able to place capital at the disposal of certain projects in Somaliland, particularly those relating to agriculture, industrialization and the processing of agricultural products, that would be very desirable. If the United Nations and the specialized agencies could do something along those lines, the results would be most fruitful.

The Administration of Somaliland has undertaken negotiations with the Technical Assistance Board of the United Nations. We have requested economic assistance for Somaliland. We have requested that a mission be sent to see the problems, the possibilities of development and the ways and means to be adopted to develop the country.

Secondly, there is the question of private capital. This is a point which I mentioned before and which I noted with satisfaction was broached by the Chairman of the Advisory Council. The private capitalist who wishes to invest wants some safeguards in regard to the possibility of amortizing his capital. In some industries, it is possible to amortize capital within ten years, but other industries, mineral resources and such activities, do not permit ten-year amortization. Would it be possible for the General Assembly or the Trusteeship Council to make a recommendation or adopt a decision which would assure such people that, if they choose to invest in Somaliland, future regimes will respect such investments? That is the second part of the problem.

There might be another comment which would be pertinent in regard to the fields in which such capital might be invested. That is a matter of detail, and I might cite some examples. I might mention the salt works at Hafun. They functioned before the war and helped considerably to improve the Somali economy. They have been destroyed and 200 or 300 million lire would be required to get them working again. We have been looking for capital in Italy, but it is a difficult problem. If international assistance could be found for this purpose, it would help the economy.

That is just one example. There are many others.

There are other enterprises. There is the possibility of industries for the processing of agricultural commodities. For instance, a meat canning industry might be very appropriate for Somaliland. The main point is to find capital which could be invested in Somaliland. Once we have a choice between private or public international capital, then, of course, we could discuss the matter of where such capital could be invested in the interests of the people of the Territory and in the interests of the Territory itself.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I wish to ask a question which is rather along the lines of the question asked by the representative of Iraq. The special representative has told us that it is important to know whether capital would be prepared to seek fields of investment in Somaliland and if in principle, capital is prepared to go to Somaliland. Then it would be possible to study the fields where such investments could be made. I believe that, generally speaking, private capital is always ready and willing to find fields of investment, and the first question that arises is whether there are private investments available. However, private capital is not willing to invest in just anything. Private capital is never willing to invest in bad business; it is always willing to invest in good business.

The special representative has told us that the economic development of Somaliland would require substantial investments. The essential question to be answered before it can be told whether there are any chances of finding private capital for investment is whether such investments would be profitable. The special representative gave us a characteristic example. He mentioned the salt works, in which an investment of two to three hundred million lire might increase the economic prosperity of the whole territory. That is one example. How about some other possibilities? The special representative mentioned the possibility of the processing of agricultural products. Are there vast stretches of territory which would be amenable to irrigation? Private capital could be found to carry out such irrigation works if it were known that there were many tens of thousands of acres of good ground to be irrigated. But, if no matter how much water was brought to that land, still nothing would grow, then capital would not be found for investment in such a project. The same principle can be applied, for instance, to a road network. Money could be found to build a road network if there was a demand for such roads, but nobody would build a road for which there was no traffic.

Nobody would build a port where there were no ships.

The essential question, in my opinion, is whether there are possibilities not of investment but of profitable investment. If there are realms of profitable investment in Somaliland, then certainly it will be possible to find capital.

The question of amortization within a certain time limit, which should not go beyond the period of trusteeship when the Somali State will assume independence, is another question, and a delicate question. Capital which has to be amortized within twenty-five years will not be invested if there are not certain assurances. If certain investments are indispensable, the question still is whether such investments will be profitable or, perhaps, whether such investments should be regarded as sacrificial investments, and these would have to be made by or through the United Nations. The United Nations was prepared to invest considerable sums of money in Korea without any hope of amortization. That is an example, but it may or may not be prepared to do that in Somaliland. That is a different type of investment from the type I mentioned at the beginning of my remarks. I first mentioned profitable investments, and let us look at this question: are there profitable investments to be made in Somaliland?

Mr. FORNARI (special representative) (interpretation from French): I thank the representative of Belgium for the points which he has raised. I entirely agree with him. I spoke both of private and of public capital. Private capital, of course, seeks profitable investment. There are not many realms for such investment, but there are some. I spoke of the salt works, and there is something else which has come to my mind. There is the question of sugar factories. The sugar now consumed in Somaliland is about 100,000 quintals per year. There is a factory now which produces 50,000 to 55,000 quintals per year. Therefore, it would be very easy to build another factory to fill the gap, particularly since sugar can be produced on a remunerative basis in Somaliland. There are also neighbouring territories which might provide markets. We studied this sugar problem, but the same question always arose. We were told: "Yes, we are prepared to invest the money, but what will happen then? Can we be sure to amortize our capital within ten years? Certainly we cannot, but what will happen after that period of ten years?"

With regard to non-profitable investment, that was what I referred to when I spoke of the need of public capital. Only a State or an inter-governmental

organization can invest capital which will be more or less sacrificial capital, which will not yield a profit but which will raise the general economic standards of the country. Italy has already intervened in this connexion, and it is in that direction that international organizations might also intervene usefully.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): The French delegation had submitted a certain number of written questions. I learn that, for reasons which are quite understandable, the Italian delegation has not yet been able to prepare written replies. Accordingly, I shall be quite satisfied with verbal replies to the questions which I sent in.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I find that I have not got a copy of the written questions. Could the representative of France supply me with one, now or later?

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): I will certainly do so, although I have no objection if the Special Representative wishes to have a little time to look over the questions, so that he may reply at his convenience.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I am ready to reply now.

The PRESIDENT: In that case, the representative of France could put his questions orally and the Special Representative could reply. We could then proceed.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): The first question relates to the political rights of immigrants, referred to on pages 21, 41 and 42 of the Annual Report. The question was whether any foreigner had been called upon to participate in the political activities of the Territory or whether there were any qualifications or conditions of residence relating to political activities.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French):

We have not yet been able to organize any elections. There is a territorial council in which foreigners are represented. We set up that territorial council pursuant to the recommendations of the consultative council, and pursuant to the result of the referendum carried out among the people. The territorial council is composed of thirty-five persons. Of the thirty-five, twenty-eight are Somalis and the seven others are foreigners. Of these, four are Italians: two are representatives of the Italian colony and two are representatives of the economic activities of the territory. There are two Arabs and one Indian^{or} Pakistani. We have an Indian-Pakistani group which is rather important. We asked one of them to be present in the territorial council to represent both groups.

As regards our future intentions towards elections and the recognition of voting rights for foreigners, this is a matter on which I should like to reserve my answer, because we shall have to ask the advice of the consultative council and of the territorial council. There will have to be some sort of citizenship law, which we have not yet had time to pass in the nine months we have been administering the territory. Consequently, I reserve the right of the Italian administration to study the matter.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): We think it is simpler than that. We wanted to know what residential requirements exist at present for foreigners so as to make it possible for them to participate in that minimum of political activity which already exists. For example, you allow the Pakistani, to whom you referred, to work in the council. What residence was required of him before he was able to be a member of the council?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The Indian-Pakistani community was asked to designate one of their representatives. Communities of that type are those for which no residence rule has been established.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): I wish to ask a question of specialized interest concerning the school of mechanics, which is not mentioned in the chapter on education. Could we have further details on that institution for mechanics? What sort of aeronautic instruction is being given in that school?

Mr. FORJANI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The school for aeronautic mechanics has been opened for just a short time; classes only began at the beginning of this year. I think that is why the report merely mentions that school instead of giving any details, since it was not open at the time the report was prepared. But I can give you some details now.

I should like to make it clear that there is no question of preparing any specialists in military aeronautics. There is only the question of civil aviation. The school was visited by the members of the consultative council and myself just about a month before we left Mogadiscio. The school has four branches, one to teach radio telegraphy, another for mechanics proper, a third for motorisation and the fourth for meteorology, weather forecasting. These are fields of instruction which will be very useful for civil aviation technicians. Graduates of the school will also be excellent auto-mechanics, let us say, and agricultural implement mechanics at the same time; the machinery is more or less similar.

As regards the programmes of instruction, I believe Somaliland, as a future independent state, will hardly be able to have a substantial air service, but it should have landing fields, and therefore we have to train some people who will be capable of servicing foreign airplanes when they arrive, to make spot repairs, to give the required signals and so forth. If the Somali budget in the future -- and I am afraid not in the near future -- will allow the setting up of an aviation establishment, it will certainly be our duty to train pilots and persons capable of operating airplanes and carrying out complex tasks relevant thereto.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): With regard to the chapter on justice, which appears on pages 43 to 49 of the report, what is the disciplinary regime of the magistrates? How is the independence of the judiciary safeguarded? How are any misdeeds of magistrates punished?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French):

The disciplinary regime for Italian magistrates is settled by Italian law. The independence of the judiciary in Italy is safeguarded by the constitution and by a special law, the latter providing for a special disciplinary court composed of magistrates. That court is competent to judge any crimes committed by their colleagues.

As regards the local magistrates, the Cadis have judicial power. We are making a study of the work of this indigenous magistracy. In Mogadiscio and in Rome we are studying the possibility of setting up a new judicial organization. A commission was set up, and in his personal capacity one of the members of the consultative council took part in that work. It was the representative of Egypt who was interested in that problem. We asked him to attend meetings of that commission, in his personal capacity, because since the country is a Moslem country, the representative of Egypt particularly would be in a position to advise us as to the regime to be set up for indigenous magistrates. I hope that the new law will be drafted shortly. The new draft will contain a special disciplinary regime. I might say that it will be a self-disciplined regime for magistrates so that the judiciary's independence will be secured.

The old law is still in effect at the present time. It is the law which was maintained during the British administration. Under that law the Cadis are covered by immunity. They can be judged only by the administrator himself.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): My next question relates to technical assistance, which is mentioned on pages 24 and 56 of the report. It seems that technical assistance from the United Nations is to be resorted to, in addition to the technical assistance to be received from the Economic Co-operation Administration. What portion of the development programme will the administration wish to submit to the United Nations?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French):

Thus far there have only been preliminary contacts. We thought that it would be difficult to set up a long distance contact between Mogadiscio and New York for the purpose of establishing the technical assistance programme. That is why we requested the technical assistance administration of the United Nations to send a special mission to Somaliland to study the situation in the country, to make proposals and suggest action to be submitted, on the one hand to the United Nations, and on the other hand to the administering authority so as to see in what realms of activity United Nations technical assistance would be profitable.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (Interpretation from French): The next question relates to the cotton factory, which is referred to on pages 57 and 102 of the report. What is the production foreseen for that factory in tons?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French): I must ask the representative of France to allow me a day or two before answering that question. I am awaiting a precise reply to that question in exact figures and tons, and I expect to have it in a couple of days.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (Interpretation from French): The next question relates to the foodstuff deficit, referred to on page 96 of the report, necessitating 6 million scudos worth of imports. What category of the population required such imports of foodstuffs?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French): Foodstuff imports are required for all categories of the people. I presume that this question relates to the foreign population. The region is deficient as regards cereals, which are consumed not only by the European population, but also by the indigenous population. The indigenous people used to eat only doura or cornmeal. Now, however, their higher classes in particular are accustomed to eating wheat as well as corn and doura. On the other hand, the greater part of the wheat import is for Europeans. Rice imports are entirely for the indigenous people for this reason, namely, ^{that} the whole northern part of Somaliland, Midjertein, has been accustomed for centuries to eat rice for economic reasons. Exports are sent to Aden, a British Protectorate. Various products, such as incense, are exported, while rice is imported, and the people in that area are accustomed to eating it. Coffee is not widely consumed by the indigenous population, and therefore, coffee imports are for the Europeans, Arabs, and other non-indigenous groups of the people. The same situation applies in the case of spices and butter. Somalis themselves eat a special kind of butter made from camel milk, which they manufacture for themselves.

Another article which is imported in large quantity almost entirely for the consumption of the indigenous population is tea. The Somalis, like many other African peoples, are fond of drinking tea, and as the territory produces none, we are forced to import it.

I believe that more or less covers the question asked by the representative of France.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (Interpretation from French): The next question refers to roads -- pages 110 to 112 of the report. Has the road network suffered greatly from the period of the war, and if so, when will the restoration of that network be completed?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French):

The road network in Somaliland is composed of a few paved roads and numerous trails. The trails have not suffered greatly from the war. They were very well maintained by the British Administration and we have continued that maintenance, which is given attention annually. When the rains come the trails are ruined, and after the rain is over they have to be repaired. As for the asphalt roads, they did suffer greatly from the war and their maintenance has been on a rather modest scale. We are repairing them now. In our 1951-52 budget we have appropriated substantial sums for such repairs, particularly for the area from Mogadishu to Belet Uen, but this will not be enough. It will take more than one year to repair all the roads, or even this one road, but we hope to have the latter repaired by the end of the next financial year.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (Interpretation from French): My next question concerns the hunger situation in Midjertein. We are told that the famine there was the greatest within memory. What were the causes of that famine, and what measures does the Administering Authority contemplate to prevent a recurrence?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French):

The Midjertein famine was due to drought. For some years Midjertein has suffered ^{from} the constant drought. Instead of the usual average precipitation of one hundred millimetres a year in the area, there have been only from ten to fifteen millimetres in the last few years. This situation was aggravated by the fact that during the war the inhabitants of Midjertein lost many of their cattle for various reasons and, consequently, they were unable to meet their food needs during the drought by slaughtering their cattle as is done in other countries. Of course, we gave immediate assistance; we sent foodstuffs and medicine to every town. These were distributed from soup kitchens.

As for the future, perhaps artificial rain might help -- experiments in this field have been rather encouraging in some parts of the world. We did allocate some credits in an effort to supply the indigenous population with cattle. We gave them cattle and told them that they could pay for them by small annual installments.

The same situation applies in connexion with fishing boats, a great many of which were lost during the war. These were a very important item in the coastal areas. We gave them money to buy fishing boats on condition that within four or five years the budget would be reimbursed for the amount advanced.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (Interpretation from French): The next question relates to the labour legislation which is referred to in the report. The question is as follows: if a worker moves from his usual place of residence, are his wife and family obliged to move also to the project where he is employed?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French): A draft in connexion with this question is being studied in Mogadishu by a special commission. I shall request that details should be sent, and I must ask the representative of France to wait for a few days until I receive the information from Mogadishu.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): The next question is a little complex. It has to do with Eurafricans, and relates to page 163 of the report. What is the proportion of Eurafrican children -- first, those brought up by their fathers, second, those taken back to the tribe of the mother and, third, those neglected by both parents? The question can be summed up as follows: what is, in general, the attitude of Somali society towards half-breeds?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I am awaiting exact data from Mogadishu on the percentage of half-breed children. May I suggest that the greater part of these children are neglected by both parents? There are two orphanages in Mogadishu which take in such children when they are abandoned -- abandoned in the streets, as a matter of fact -- and seek to bring them up. There is no special half-breed problem in Somaliland because the number of half-breeds is very small. In fact, it is not a problem as such. However, I wish to obtain some exact data on this matter, and that is why I should like to reserve the right to give a specific reply to the representative of France.

Mr. PIGNON (France) (interpretation from French): The last question which the delegation of France wishes to put to the Special Representative is one of detail which we ask only for the sake of precision. It relates to page 166 of the report and has to do with the penal and penitentiary regime. The question is: what is the distinction between theft and rapine under Italian law?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The distinction between theft and rapine is that rapine is theft accompanied by violence -- where assault and battery is resorted to by the thieves in order to achieve their ends.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): As you will have observed, Mr. President, I am of a simple turn of mind and very easily confused, and at the moment I am not quite sure -- in the American vernacular -- "where we are at".

I assume that we have embarked on a general discussion and a series of questions on the whole orbit of the Italian Administration of Somaliland, and in that case I have a few general observations which I would wish to offer and quite a number of questions which I should like to address to the Special Representative if I would be in order in so doing at this point.

The PRESIDENT: Please do.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): In the first place I should like to congratulate the Italian Government on its generosity, good sense and wisdom in sending to this meeting of the Council such a distinguished representative as Mr. Fornari, of whom we have all heard and read in terms of wide and general respect. I think we owe him our thanks for his opening statement, which was enlightening and, indeed, provocative of some serious questions. I think we should also thank our old friend and colleague, the Colombian representative on the Advisory Council, for his statement which, in its turn, poses some very serious problems.

Following the precedent established by the representatives of Iraq and Belgium, perhaps I could think aloud for a moment or two on the general economic problem presented in Somaliland, as a preliminary to asking some appropriate questions. We are facing here in this little territory problems of an exactly similar kind to those that many of us have faced in other and diverse geographical situations. We have the age-old problem of how to turn a peasant economy -- a subsistence economy -- into a trading economy, into a developed economy such as we are accustomed to seeing in the civilized world today, and such as is essential if the necessary revenue is to be produced by any state whatsoever.

We have the old, old problem of endeavouring to persuade people who have their own wishes and desires, just as we have, that it is better for them to take regular employment than to enjoy God's good sunshine and go fishing. It is not easy to persuade people in the most developed countries of the desirability of that course, but in most of our cases, of course, it is "root, hog or die". In many countries Providence provides the necessities of life to a very large extent, and the constant pressure on those of us who are accustomed to regular employment does not exist.

Here we have a small country, not very generously endowed by the Creator, facing a problem hard in itself but with the additional exacerbation of time, and I think we are all entitled to ask -- as I am quite sure the Italian Government and Mr. Fornari have asked themselves -- what happens when the honeymoon is over and when there is no longer a rich uncle to come in with enormous sums of money each year. Indeed, one of the most startling facts that one discovers is the altogether disproportionate amount of ^{the} funds expended in Somaliland which has come not from Somaliland but as a gift -- a very generous and very wise gift -- from Italy.

We have ten years, which is the limitation, to turn this backward land, dependent for more than half its revenue -- and I am prepared to be corrected on this point if I am wrong -- upon outside assistance from the country which has undertaken responsibility for it -- ten years to turn that country into a viable, economically balanced state. That is a problem which would appal any sensible, responsible person. How is it to be done? Of course, we have had two provocative statements urging us to consider and, as far as we can, to suggest means by which one may achieve what I almost called the impossible. Indeed, it may not be possible to put this country in a balanced economic position in the short term -- the ridiculously short term from this point of view -- of ten years.

What happens at the end of that ten years? We ought to face this question very early in this investigation. Somaliland is not entitled to expect, and should not expect, to continue to receive this massive assistance from Italy or from any other single state. And are we entitled to be confident -- we have no premises before us on which to establish a conclusion of confidence -- that the problem will have been solved by careful forethought and careful provision in that period of ten years? I do agree, therefore, with the Special Representative, and with the representative of Colombia on the Advisory Council also, that this is a matter of the most paramount and urgent importance, and that it is incumbent upon the Administering Power, which has already shown that it is conscious of its responsibility, to do everything that is humanly possible to increase the earning capacity and financial responsibility of the country for which, for ten short years -- or nine short years now -- it is to be responsible, and which, at the end of that period, is in theory to stand on its own financial and political feet.

How does one go about it? Of course, there is one point that has already been made which is of paramount importance. There must be investment of capital before anything can be produced, and before there is any investment of private capital there must be some security for that capital. This is not a new problem. We had to face it in connexion with the old mandates -- in connexion with those territories which were to receive, and which did in fact receive, their complete independence within a comparatively short period. How are we to ensure the investor that his investment would have reasonable security? That is one point.

Another point is -- and Ambassador Fornari has emphasized this point -- how is one to get under way the economic activities which alone can enable the people of Somaliland to produce the revenues that the State will require? In this I agree, as I always do, with the representative of Belgium: it must be shown that there is a potential industry that will pay or you will not get investment. That then is a problem for the Administering Authority: what are the possible industries?

That again is an old problem which we have all faced time and time again in all the Territories for which we are responsible. The point I really want to make is this. How can we, all working together -- the Trusteeship Council, the Administering Authority, the Advisory Council, the General Assembly, the United Nations through its Point 4 endeavours and technical aid -- move along to settle one of the most serious, recalcitrant problems with which this Council or any Administering Authority has ever been pressed.

Before I come to the political aspects, which are of much more interest to me, I should like to ask the Special Representative a few questions. In every question that I am about to ask -- and I shall ask quite a few if the President will allow me -- I wish it to be understood that I impart no note of criticism, implied or explicit. I am asking for information which seems to me to be essential for my limited thought processes, and it is probably essential for the Council also.

There has been reference made to the question of technical assistance from the United Nations. As I understand it, a request was made by the Italian Government some time in November 1950 in this regard. Could the Special Representative or the representative of the Italian Government tell me if anything has been done? I understand that no details were made, but were any arrangements made to further the possibility of technical assistance through the United Nations?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): In November 1950 I was in New York at the session of the United Nations General Assembly, and I entered into contact with the Technical Assistance Administration of the United Nations. We studied the problem. Rather than determine the specific sectors in which technical assistance would be used, we agreed that the first thing to do was to send a mission of two or three people to the Territory: an economic expert, a sanitary expert and a social expert. This mission was to carry out certain studies.

A draft technical assistance agreement has been drawn up. It is only a general agreement which does not enter into details. The possibility of signing this agreement is now being studied, but this is only the formal framework.

As regards matters of substance, we have already thought of the names of the persons to be appointed to that mission. I hope that arrangements can be made for the mission to go to Somaliland some time this year, perhaps within a few months, or within a few weeks, if possible, so that it can set up headquarters there and draw up together with the local authorities a specific programme of technical assistance.

I do not wish to conceal from the Council that the technical assistance programme is a limited one. We do have some technicians in Somaliland; in fact, we have quite a few. There may be some fields of endeavour in which United Nations technical assistance may pave the way for the investment of capital, which is the important thing.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): I wish to ask one minor question. Would the Special Representative be kind enough to give me the relation of the Somali currency to the dollar?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): A somalo is the same as an East African shilling. There are 7.3 or 7.4 somalos to the dollar.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): One notices that there is no meat industry in Somaliland. The thought immediately strikes one who has seen a territory with economic limitations to a similar extent, though different in nature, deriving considerable benefit from the breeding of cattle, why there is no meat industry. Could the Special Representative tell us why, in view of the fact that the principal activity of the Somalis, speaking generally, is the raising of cattle, a meat industry would not be feasible?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): When I arrived in Somaliland about a year ago the thing that amazed me the most was to see all that wealth of cattle -- Somaliland is wealthy in cattle -- which was not utilized. It is a question of the mentality of the indigenous inhabitant

who is a shepherd and who considers cattle in the same way as the peasants in some countries of Europe consider their mattresses. A mattress is a good place to put money, valuables, etc., where they will not be found. They never thought of getting money by selling their cattle -- they would never dream of such a thing. That is the explanation I arrived at in thinking the problem over.

I was told that before the war there was an attempt to set up a meat industry and it failed. It failed because it was so difficult to get sufficient cattle into the industry. Since then the mentality of the indigenous people has somewhat changed. In some months of the year cattle may be found more easily. Perhaps the standard of living of the indigenous people has gone up a bit, and in order to be able to buy certain things they are prepared to sell the cattle, a thing which they would never have dreamed of doing a score of years ago for any price. Therefore, perhaps a meat canning industry may now have some chance of success. We hope to be able to get private capital to that end. There are a number of private investors who are interested in the subject, and we hope to be able to develop that branch of industry. But once again, the scale will be very small. As education progresses and as we prod the people into changing their habits of thought, this branch of industry may increase its production and become a substantial resource for the economy of Somaliland.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): What the Special Representative has said does not surprise me because I have so often gone on record before this Council calling attention to the fact that human beings are very "kittle-kattle": you can lead a horse to water but you cannot make him drink; you cannot make a human being even put his mouth in the water. It takes a long, long while to alter human habits; I do not expect to see them altered in my time.

In some parts of the Territory there is a condition approaching a famine where there is a considerable diminution both in the areas and in the anticipated yield of foodstuffs, except for bananas and sugar cane, and nevertheless there is a very substantial increase in the growth of cotton. Now in view of the shortage of foodstuffs, could the Special Representative explain why there is this diminution and whether it is regarded as a good thing to reduce foodstuffs and to produce more cotton.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The reason is last year's drought. The first rainy period was more or less satisfactory; the second, however, was disastrous. The rains are expected to come in Somaliland in October and November, and they are essential for the doura. There are two growing cycles in Somaliland for doura. The second harvest was completely destroyed. The price of doura went up from 15 somalos per bag to 40 somalos.

As far as cotton is concerned, however, there is just one harvest a year. The cotton harvest benefited from the first rainy period, which was satisfactory. There was an actual increase in the production of cotton, and that was not affected by the drought in the second part of the year.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): I suppose the drought would explain both the anticipated reduction in yield and the anticipated reduction in areas under cultivation; I assume that that is the explanation.

I should now like to leave the economic side of the picture, which is really not my line at all, but to which I have been provoked by the very interesting comments of the representatives of Iraq and Belgium and the thought-provoking statements by the Special Representative and by the representative of Colombia on the Advisory Council.

I should now like to turn to the political field and to ask whether the trusteeship agreement has yet been ratified by the Italian Government.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I do not know whether I should answer that question or whether my colleague should. However, I can say that, as far as the Italian Government is concerned, I understand that ratification is being worked on. The Council of Ministers has approved the trusteeship agreement and it has now been submitted to the Italian Parliament. The parliament, of course, is sovereign, and it will decide when to discuss the question. I am informed, however, that that will take place within a few weeks, at the forthcoming session of the Parliament.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): I observe with interest and with complete approval -- for it is a very interesting and laudable act on the part of the State -- that the administration of Somaliland organized last April a referendum amongst all the representative elements in the Territory, seeking their opinions on the constitution of the Territorial Council. At the same time, they very properly sought the opinions of the Advisory Council. On the whole, my judgment is that a good and responsible job was done. But I should be interested to learn some details of this referendum: how it was organized, who took part in it. We all face the problem of how to obtain current public opinion in Trust Territories. It is a very difficult question, and we should be interested to hear anything that the Special Representative may tell us in that connexion.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): It was indeed very difficult to carry out a referendum among the population just a few weeks after we arrived in Somaliland. However, I thought I could not assume the responsibility of naming a Territorial Council, although the trusteeship agreement did give me complete latitude to do so, without obtaining some idea of the wishes of the people -- and, of course, without obtaining the advice of the Advisory Council.

I wondered what procedure to use. I thought that the simplest thing to do was to send a circular to all residencies; there are twenty-six of them, headed by Italian functionaries. There was no Council of Residence yet. I asked the heads of the residencies to obtain the advice of all political and religious leaders, all political parties, and all persons who might more or less provide a reflection of the collective thought of Somaliland. I received replies from all residencies. Some cited the opinions of individuals: they said that such-and-such a chief said this, and that the secretary of such-and-such a league said that. In other cases, the heads of the residencies gave resumes of what they felt was the thought of the people in their section.

I must say that there was not too much interest. Many chiefs and parties did not really understand the importance of the Territorial Council. However, I was not thwarted by that. I pressed the point and I did elicit answers. These answers were summed up in a memorandum which I passed over to the Advisory Council and which was published, I believe, in a document of the Advisory Council.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): I have noted with great interest the establishment of a school of political administration. I do not want what I am about to say to be misunderstood. I think that that is an encouraging and, indeed, an inspiring thing. But I would assume that the Special Representative is just as clearly aware of the limitations of this means of progress as he is of its advantages. Of course, it should be the aim of any Administering Authority to advance its people as rapidly as possible toward independence or self-government, as the case may be, and that is particularly true in respect of Somaliland because of the ten-year limitation. Of course, it is advisable to take the best educated and the most responsible of the indigenous people and to train them as rapidly as may be to assume the responsibilities which should become exclusively the field of the Somali people in due course.

But there are dangers in this particular method, just as there are advantages. If you take only the elite of a country and train that elite for responsible posts in government, then you do run the risk of divorcing the future Somali government of that country from the Somali people. Although I agree that the step which has been taken is admirable and much to be encouraged, I ask the Special Representative whether he would not agree with me that a general raising of the whole education of the mass of the people is of infinitely greater importance from the long-term point of view.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French): I agree entirely with the representative of New Zealand. As I said in my brief statement earlier in the meeting, the problem of education of the masses as against education of the elite presents a dilemma. We believe that we must train the masses so that all may have the groundwork enabling them to take part in and assume the responsibilities of the political organization of the country.

There is, however, a practical problem. If we wish Somaliland to achieve independence, we must place indigenous inhabitants alongside Italian officials. Thus far, most Somalis have received only a primary education. Some of them have been able, through personal reading and study, to get more knowledge, but not in a digested or systematic form. They would not at present be capable of exercising public functions as responsible officials. This is a problem which must be solved. As soon as possible, we must find indigenous inhabitants to place alongside higher Italian officials.

The question is: How is this to be done? Should we wait for elements spontaneously to rise from the masses to take over responsibility? That might be the best method, but time is short: we have only ten years. Is it possible that in ten years the masses will give birth to representative and responsible elements? Perhaps it is possible in the political field, but it is much more difficult to train technical officials, accountants, persons versed in public administration, public law and things of that nature. We established an administrative school. We held entrance examinations to obtain the most capable elements of the population. We hope within three years to have a corps of officials capable of assuming responsibility. We hope, for instance, to have persons able to assume the tasks of Residents, of chiefs of departments and bureaus, rather than of assistants.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): I do not disagree at all with the Special Representative. I am fully aware of the complexities of the problem of educating the people.

I turn now to the Territorial Council and its constitution. I repeat that I think that this represents a very earnest and responsible -- and on the whole successful -- attempt to achieve some means of consultation with the people.

I have two questions to ask on this subject, one depending upon the other.

I observe that in the very proper allocation of seats to political parties, four were assigned to the Conference Party and three to the Somali Youth League. This leads one to ask the following question: What are the respective memberships of the Conference Party and the Somali Youth League? We have had a figure on the total membership, and we have had estimates as to their separate memberships. I should like to ask the Special Representative to give us his estimate of the membership of the Conference Party and the Somali Youth League, respectively.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative)(Interpretation from French): Both parties, as is the case with all political parties in the world, claim to represent the majority of the population. In information at our disposal, however, and in various United Nations documents, such as the report of the visiting mission, I think it is recognized that the number of adherents of the Conference Party is larger than the number of adherents of the Somali Youth League. It was because we did not wish overly to stress this difference that we gave the two parties almost equal representation. The ratio was four to three; that is not exactly fifty-fifty, but it is at least forty-sixty. We are convinced from information at our disposal that for some time the Conference Party has had a larger membership than the Somali Youth League.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): I do wish to repeat that there is no criticism intended in what I am saying; I am merely asking for information.

In examining the skeleton of authority in this new State, I see that there is an Administrator -- and a very competent, worthy individual, as we can now see for ourselves -- a Secretary-General, sixteen bureaus, six regional organizations, and twenty-seven residencies. I am wondering whether this might not represent over-departmentalization, over-compartmentalization, of such a simple State as Somaliland. I may be perfectly wrong. I would merely ask the Special Representative to give us the benefit of his views on whether the organization is not too complicated.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French): In the old Italian organization which we inherited, there were only three departments, each with a number of branches. The British organization was different. It contained various bureaus: of public works, of finances, of agriculture, and so forth. These were more or less independent departments.

When we took over the administration, we were faced with the question whether to group these bureaus into departments or to maintain them as they were. We decided to adopt the second solution, for two reasons.

First, we must keep in mind the forthcoming independence of Somaliland. When it achieves its independence, Somaliland will have ministries or departments -- I do not know exactly what they will be called -- and each one of these departments will have to have a competence parallel to the competence of the present bureaus.

Secondly, the system which we adopted permits greater mobility. It is a question of grouping and organization. The various bureaus cover entire branches of administrative and technical affairs. Each branch has its own bureau. There is a bureau of public works, a bureau of public education and health, a bureau of statistics, and so forth. We cannot, of course, suppress these bureaus. The question was whether they should be grouped into two or three chief departments. We did not think that that was necessary, and we thought that direct contact between the chiefs of the bureaus and the Secretary-General would be advisable. We did not think it would be wise to set up a superstructure to act as some sort of screen between the work of the administration and the Administrator.

There were two directives: one concerning administration, and the other concerning the future of the Somali State. It is probable that Somaliland will not have an independent statistical bureau, press bureau, accounting bureau, and so forth. These will probably be bureaus in a separate governmental organization. It is certainly necessary, however, to have direct liaison between the Secretary-General and the various bureaus, without any bureaucratic superstructure between them.

That is why we maintained the administration as it was and as the Report describes it on page 34.

The meeting was suspended at 4.5 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): We have been considering the question of the administrative organization in Somaliland, and I should like to ask the Special Representative a question relating to the Residency Councils which are the bodies, I gather, through which the Administration really gets to the grass roots of popular opinion in the Territory. These Councils are composed of the District Chiefs and notables, as well as village Chiefs, market supervisors and so on. To illustrate to my mind how far it is possible to consult public opinion, would the Special Representative tell us how a Chief gets to be a Chief; in other words, to what extent does he actually represent public opinion in his district?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): There have always been two ways of electing Chiefs in Somaliland. The most widespread method is not anti-democratic. It is the system of tribal chirs. A chir is an assembly of the old and young men in the tribe who are capable of bearing arms. That is the old and customary conception. These men, who are capable of bearing arms, gather to discuss the most important problems of their tribe and to elect the Chief. Consequently, the Chief is the expression of the will of the members of the tribe. Of course, these are not elections as elections are known in European or American countries, in accordance with the rules of secret balloting and so on. That could not be expected. Nevertheless, they are the expression of the collective will.

There are certain cases of hereditary Chiefs and there are three or four hereditary Sultans. A Sultan is not a Chief elected by a tribe, but the Chief of a group of tribes. Three or four tribes gather together and consider the Sultan as their collective Chief.

The Residency Council, as the representative of New Zealand correctly explained, is composed not only of these Chiefs, who are the representatives of the tribes, but also of representatives of the political parties -- the Somali Youth League and the Conferencia. Furthermore, there are the market chiefs and the notables who represent the economic and political interests. There are also the religious chiefs whose advice and experience, and sometimes culture, are likely to help the Resident in conducting the affairs of his

territory in a manner that reflects public opinion. I have seen some records of the meetings of such Residency Councils. They show quite a difference between the first meetings and the meetings of the last few months. The members of the Residency Council actually develop; they take a remarkable interest -- gradually, of course -- in public affairs. There is a slow, but definitely discernable progress toward political maturity. The road is a long and arduous one, but we shall definitely do everything in our power to transform these Residency Councils gradually into democratic assemblies which will increasingly constitute the expression of the consensus of the people.

Sir Carl HERENDSEN (New Zealand): The road is, of course, long and arduous and only those with actual experience of this problem of bringing backward peoples forward to self-government can realize how long, arduous and complicated it is.

I should like now to turn to the question of the language of instruction in the schools. That, of course, is a very old problem which we have had to face on so many occasions. I do not intend to repeat all that has been said pro and con, but I should like to ask the Special Representative if he is entirely satisfied and if, on the whole, the Somali people, in so far as an accurate opinion can be given, are entirely satisfied with the present situation in which Italian and Arabic are the languages of instruction in the schools, Somali being used only for assistance in respect of those two languages.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I think that the Somali people, at least the more cultivated strata, are quite satisfied with the language selection. There are certainly, however, some regions and some groups which would prefer to have the Somali language raised to the status of a written language. I should like to point out that, thus far, Somali is not a written language. Studies will have to be undertaken to transform the language into a national language capable of being written.

Nor is the problem a static one. Opinion is not static either, even among the political parties. A year ago, there was a petition from the Somali Youth League which asked that the Somali language be raised to the standing of a national language. But more recent petitions indicate that the same organizations want Arabic to become, if not the national language, at least the language of education along with Italian.

There were practical reasons which impelled us to choose Arabic. There was the question of time, for instance. The Somali language is a conglomeration of dialects. It has a very poor vocabulary, and in order to transform it into a written language, a tremendous amount of work would have to be done to adapt and transform the vocabulary. On the other hand, Arabic is a widespread language all over the Middle East. It is the language of religion, and the Italian Administration was constrained to bear in mind the religious interests of the people.

There was a whole complex set of problems which led us to select Arabic as the language of instruction along with Italian, but, of course, we have not forgotten the opinion of the Advisory Council, which declared itself in favour of Arabic but recommended that we study the possibility of developing the Somali dialect so that it might ultimately become a written language, in so far as that might be possible. Up to the present, we have done the following. We sent Professor Morano to Mogadiscio. Professor Morano is a linguist who is quite conversant with the Kouchitique dialects of the region. We asked him to draw up an alphabet and a method for transcribing the words, since the Somali language is not a written language. We have also asked for the assistance of UNESCO in this matter.

The difficulty is that at the academic level it is not yet practicable to use the Somali language, and, therefore, we are using the two languages, Arabic and Italian. In the Territorial Council, there is a practice which we welcome. Three languages are used in the Council, and they are accepted equally. The languages are Somali, Arabic and Italian, and the speeches made in any language are interpreted into the other two languages.

Sir Carl BERENDSON (New Zealand): I thank the Special Representative for his reply. I shall now turn to the question of health. I observe that on the transfer of authority to the Italian Administration there were twenty-one Italian doctors practising in the Territory, that sixteen others had arrived from Italy and that eight had been asked for. Could I ask, firstly, whether these eight have arrived and, secondly, whether 45 Italian doctors are regarded as adequate for the needs of the Territory?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The eight physicians whom we are awaiting have not yet all arrived. When I left Mogadiscio, three had arrived and five more were expected. The total will not ^{be} large

for a population of 1,300,000. There is the question of the budget and of the availability of physicians. Of course, these physicians are assisted by nurses and dispensary technicians, who are Somalis.

A long-term plan of public education is being studied, and there is a brief reference to that in the Annual Report. We want to set up a school for medical assistants, who will not be nurses or doctors. The most highly educated person in Somaliland only has the equivalent of a primary education, and we cannot make doctors out of them. Fifteen to twenty years of study are needed to make a physician, this study including courses at secondary schools, colleges, universities and medical schools. It is a long process, much longer than the ten-year period at our disposal. Therefore, to obtain Somali doctors is out of the question, and we have decided to train Somalis as medical assistants. These medical assistants will be more than nurses but less than physicians.

This plan is still in the embryonic stage; in fact, it is still in our intentions, but we hope that in the future we shall have more physicians. The physicians who are already there are in Mogadiscio and in the interior of the Territory.

Another problem before us was whether it would be better to group two or three doctors together in important centres, where a clinic could be set up, with three, four or five hospitals in the main towns, or whether to spread the doctors all over the Territory. We thought that it would be better to have one doctor in each important Residency, except in Mogadiscio, where there is a hospital. There is also a tuberculosis hospital in another part of the country. For the remainder of the country, we sent one doctor to each Residency. Every doctor, of course, will do everything in his power. He will seek to assemble the sick persons from the interior, and attend to them.

Another difficulty arises because the people are nomadic in character. If there were more physicians, where would be put them? If we put them in caravans, we should have to have another organization to enable the doctors to reach the people. Under President Truman's Point Four Programme, we received an allocation of \$50,000, and we propose that some of these dollars should be used by the United States Government to provide automobiles which would be equipped with surgical and medical equipment. These automobiles could then tour the country to bring medical assistance to the people, even in the most backward areas.

But, I repeat, the task is a most arduous one, not only with regard to the number of physicians available, but also because of the nomadic character of the population. There are limits to the number of physicians who could usefully be placed in fixed areas in the interior of Somaliland.

Sir Carl BERENDSON (New Zealand): Could I ask the Special Representative if there are any qualified medical officers other than Italian in the Territory and, if not, whether use could not be made of the source of displaced persons and refugees?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): At the moment, there are only Italian physicians in Somaliland. These physicians were asked to come to Somaliland, and availed themselves of the offer. I should like an opportunity of studying the question raised by the representative of New Zealand, and I should like to reserve the question for a later reply. We should like to study the question of the possibility of using physicians other than Italian physicians. Of course, there would be the question of the language. If we cannot find physicians in Italy who will accept our offer, we may have to have recourse to others, but so long as there are Italian physicians who are prepared to come to Somaliland, would it not be better to have recourse to them? They are conversant, of course, with the Italian language and they would find it easier to take their place in the medical profession in Somaliland, since this profession is now largely Italian. Nevertheless, I gladly take note of this question and certainly I shall study it with the greatest of care.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): Could the Special Representative tell us whether there is any special problem in the territory, particularly in respect of the Somalis themselves in regard to the consumption of alcohol?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): No, not at all. There is no problem at all of alcoholism. I might say that the Somalis do not drink spirits. The percentage that does is a very exiguous one. Perhaps one Somali per ten thousand drinks alcohol.

Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand): I want to thank the President and my colleagues for their patience, and the Special Representative for the frank and generous way in which he has answered my questions.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I should like to ask the Special Representative what the level of instruction is for the students in the school for administrators, and also what are the subjects of study and the basis of the examination. Are those persons graduates of primary schools? Could the school be compared with secondary schools elsewhere in the world? How many students follow the course of study?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The level of instruction of the students is that of primary school graduates. A special competitive examination was given for admission to that school. An announcement was circulated that the school was being opened and that all those who wished to prepare for that school could enter. The examination had to do with general culture. There was a written examination and an oral examination. The written examination could be taken in any one of the languages, Arabic, English or Italian. The candidates had to display some general knowledge, some general culture. The students are graduates of elementary schools, but to their school knowledge they have superimposed some modicum of higher knowledge.

These are not children, some of them are quite aged; some are about forty years old. Half of them are members of the Somali Youth League. All the leaders of that party, for instance, are students in the school, from the president and the secretary-general on down. There are members of other parties in the school also. There are employees of the administration. If you can speak of an elite in that country, these are the people who are the elite; they are in that school.

So far there has been just one year of courses, and it has not really been a complete school year. Courses began at the beginning of January, and school closed for vacation, which of course is during the hottest months of the year, April, May and June. The school is open until the end of April. There have been four months of courses thus far.

The method used was the one used in Italian universities. Inasmuch as there was a shortage of text-books, every teacher gave a summary of his lessons, written in a note-book; the note-books were then copied and the copies distributed to the students.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): Do the students in those schools work for the administration later on? Members of the political parties attend the school; are they later on destined for political work or administrative work in Somaliland?

Mr. FERNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I think their intention is to enter into the administration for evident reasons: they are quite sure of getting jobs. But of course I do not rule out the possibility that the political leaders come to school in order to have a better background for political activity, so as to be able subsequently to check up on what will be presumably their future officials and employees.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): On page 25 of the report mention is made of well-digging. Is this for agricultural purposes or merely for cattle-raising?

Mr. FERRARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): That is the technical assistance programme of ECA which is referred to. We have had an ECA mission in Somaliland, composed of an American geologist and two Italian engineers. They are touring the country to study conditions so that it can be ascertained where wells should be dug.

What is the purpose? Somaliland would require 10,000 wells to solve the water problem. Technical problems, such as where wells should be dug, have to be solved first. What is the depth of the water-bearing strata? What is the configuration of the sub-soil? It was learned that in some countries of Africa when one increased the number of wells in one zone the quantity of water in another zone went down. One therefore cannot dig everywhere.

These 100 wells are experimental. They are pilot wells. This would be a programme which of course would have to be extended gradually. These 100 wells would not only serve technical and experimental purposes. They would of course give water not only for agriculture but for cattle, and of course for the inhabitants themselves where there is need.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (interpretation from French): On page 56 and on page 96 of the report mention is made of land that can be irrigated. One of these units, which is mentioned on page 96, is 250 hectares. I should like to know what the results of these experiments were. How many families were settled on these units of land? Were they local inhabitants? Were they indigenous to that area? Were they brought in from outside? Were they nomads who settled there or agricultural workers who have always been accustomed to agricultural work?

Mr. FERRARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): There are two consortia which we are establishing one in Shebelli and one in Juba. Generally speaking, the local inhabitants in those places are shepherds and agriculturalists. They are shepherds who have cattle and who, during the rainy months, plant doura. They usually send their women-folk to work in the fields. Subsequently they harvest the crop. We should like to induce them to use more intensive agricultural methods, but so far the work is entirely preparatory. In Juba the work is more advanced.

The level of the Descek is lower than the one prevailing in the other area. Irrigation has not yet been carried out, but we are preparing for the next rainy season. A network of canals and waterworks is planned. We are trying to regularize the flow of such waters as are available, particularly the waters whose level will go up during the rainy season; the object is to collect the waters that will become available at that time.

The Juba does not often have a high level of water and the flow will have to be regularized so as to make possible constant and intensive agricultural methods. In both areas we are still in the stage of preparatory work. Families have not yet settled permanently in the areas.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (Interpretation from French): On page 96 of the report reference is made to a co-participation contract for the cultivation of cotton, according to which the indigenous population are given selected seeds and have the right to purchase the product. Are these contracts supervised in order to avoid any danger of abuse? Is the cultivator permitted to purchase the cotton, or is there a monopoly? Is the price controlled by the Administration? This type of contract ought to satisfy both the population and the Administration. Is it supervised? Is the price agreed to and the cultivator permitted to sell the cotton where he wishes? Is this type of contract controlled by the Administration to a sufficient extent that any possibility of abuse is avoided?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French): The question of co-participation contracts is of great interest to us. Such contracts hold many possibilities of co-operation between capital and labour. The indigenous agriculturist has the land at his disposal and usually plants doura, corn and cotton. He receives assistance in advance not only from the persons who draw up the contracts -- who are usually Europeans -- but also from other parties. Selected seeds are supplied to the agriculturist and certain sums are given to him in advance in order to defray his expenses. The Administration supervises the drawing up of these contracts strictly in order to avoid any abuses. I think this type of contract is satisfactory to all parties concerned. If there is a monopoly, there should be a monopoly price, but this is not so.

There are two types of contracts. In one the price is fixed by the Administration at the time of harvest and sale. In the other, the price is fixed in advance when the contract is drawn up, and a premium is allowed in case prices go up during the term of the contract. If the unit is one kilogramme, then it may be said that the price level is the one prevailing at the Milan cotton exchange, and if, at the time of sale, cotton goes up in price, then under that contract there will be a premium of thirty somalo cents for every

somalo increase in the price of cotton, and this does result in a profit for the indigenous agriculturist. In fact, this idea was welcomed by the indigenous agriculturist.

We recently had a visit from an ILO inspector, who came at our request to Somaliland to advise us on this matter. His report, I believe, was distributed^{the} day before yesterday. It praises this method of co-participation and urges the Administration to press forward in this form of co-operation between Italian capital and technique and indigenous labour.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (Interpretation from French): I have one further question with regard to education. I note that although the school attendance is not large, there is a great improvement in that situation. I should like to know whether the schools that exist at present are fully utilized. In other words, is the attendance limited only because of financial difficulties and lack of teachers, or do the mass of the population continue not to be interested in sending their children to school? Are there many who would like to go to school if there were schools in existence, or are the schools not well attended? I should like to have some information regarding that aspect, including the attitude of the population with regard to education.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French): There are many difficulties. Generally speaking, enthusiasm is high. At the beginning, many registered for classes in schools. On all the inspection trips which I took I was accompanied by members of the Advisory Council and we received many requests to open schools and to assign teachers to various areas. But the situation varied. In Mogadishu the results were rather good towards the end of the year. The greater part of the students who had registered actually completed the courses of study and were on hand for examinations. The results were not brilliant, but they were satisfactory. In other parts of the country, unfortunately, particularly in the interior where the nomadic population is more numerous than the settled population, there was an initial spurt of enthusiasm, but after that we noted a considerable decline in school attendance. Much remains to be done, however. If the budget resources were unlimited, and if we had a sufficient number of teachers -- which is the big problem -- then we could increase with profit the number of schools.

In all of Africa I think this movement is evident. What was impossible ten years ago is quite possible now. The interest of the people in education is growing, but we are still at the beginning of the process and progress is bound to be gradual. It is a question of the psychological evolution of the attitude of the masses towards education, and that takes time.

Mr. W.Y. LIU (China): My delegation is very happy that one of the questions raised by the representative of New Zealand concerned ratification of the Trusteeship Agreement. That is one point to which my delegation attaches great importance, and we note with satisfaction that the Special Representative has already given us information. We are submitting a few questions in writing. I am not sure, Mr. President, whether you are following the same procedure as formerly, according to which all questions must be submitted in writing.

The PRESIDENT: If you have any questions ready, you might put them at once.

Mr. Y. W. LIU (China): I wish to submit questions in writing, but I should also like to ask one or two general questions now.

On page 25 of document T/L.170, produced by the Secretariat, there is one observation which my delegation regards as very serious. I should like to read a few sentences, and should be grateful if the Special Representative would give us his views on the matter. The document states:

"Nomadism and semi-nomadism of a large proportion of the inhabitants of the Territory resulting from periodic movements to new grazing lands and water supplies is one of the fundamental problems hampering the advancement of the population."

It then goes on to say that, as a result, "the economy is uncontrolled, medical and health programmes are not implemented, municipal services lack any real purpose and civil registry offices are of dubious value".

That seems to me to be a very dark picture, and I wonder whether the Special Representative shares this pessimistic view of this fundamental problem of the Territory, namely, nomadism. I should like to ask him also what the Administering Authority can do in order to ensure that a new regime and a new picture shall emerge. Would he tell us whether he shares this pessimistic view?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French):

As the representative of China has stated quite correctly, and as the Secretariat points out in its resume, the question of nomadism is an important one in Somaliland. In fact, it constitutes a great obstacle to the political and social advancement of the people of the Territory. I stressed that problem in my opening statement, and in another statement which I made a short while ago pointing out that the social structure of Somaliland is a backward one. After all, the tribal structure is a consequence of nomadism. When a tribe must go to seek water and pastures, passing from one region to another, it is difficult for its people even to conceive of a territorial system of political organization. Such a group is rather bound to follow the chief. ^{The} chief is the man who is capable of leading the tribe to the best pastures, who is able to find water, who knows how to water the cattle, and who knows how to negotiate with other tribes. As I say, the tribal structure is the consequence of nomadism and nomadism, in turn, is a consequence of the economic conditions of the country.

But there again evolution is to be noted. According to persons who were in Somaliland some years ago there used to be a zone between the Vebi Scebelli and Giuba rivers where agriculture was not pursued except sporadically. There was no agricultural tradition. Now I have found myself that indigenous agriculture has begun to strike root and to have a certain tradition and history. It is almost always the same family that settles down on the same piece of land during the rainy months. There is some sort of natural stabilization of people who begin to settle down. We know that from being nomadic shepherds people are bound to pass to agriculture. The Somalis are now in that transitional stage. It will be a slow transition because of the economic situation of the country and also, I might say, because of its meteorological situation. As long as it is impossible to find permanent pastures and enough wells to ensure that the people and cattle shall not be forced to move about in search of water to drink -- which will take time -- it will be impossible to prevent the people from wandering about.

As for the political organization, I have spoken of the Residency Councils and the Municipal Councils. We have not tried to fix the tribes to the soil by force, which would be impossible, but have tried to encourage them to think in territorial terms, although here again the road is long and arduous and the obstacles considerable.

Mr. Y. W. LIU (China): My question has been answered very satisfactorily by the Special Representative but I should like to proceed a little further and to deal with the language of these Somalis. Since the huge population still speaks its dialects, does the Administering Authority feel that a vast programme of education, such as must be undertaken to promote the development of the Territory during the period of trusteeship, ^{is possible} unless the language spoken by the people exists in written and oral form? Is it possible to achieve mass literacy in a period of ten years through the use of the Italian and Arabic languages which, to the vast majority of Somalis, are either unknown or secondary languages?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): "I believe, nevertheless, that the only method of diminishing the number of illiterates is to teach them now a language which is in existence in written form and which has an alphabet and a literature. If we were to wait until the Somali dialects were transformed into a language or a semblance of a language, not just years but

tens or even thousands of years would be required. That is what led us to choose Arabic, together with Italian, for use as the language of instruction in the schools.

Mr. Y. W. LIU (China): On page 25 of the report it is stated that the assistance of the International Labour Organisation was being sought in the study of social conditions in the Territory. Was this aid obtained and, if it was, what were the general conclusions reached?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): The visit of the representative of the International Labour Organisation was completed only a few weeks ago. He toured the country and the most important localities from the point of view of social conditions of the workers, and he has drawn up a report. The report was submitted some days ago to the International Labour Organisation, and I do not know whether it has been received yet in the United Nations. I saw it when I reached New York but was able only to peruse it cursorily. I have not had time during the last three days to study it carefully, although it is worthy of such study. It concludes with a number of recommendations and suggestions. We should be happy to accept the suggestions of the representative of the International Labour Organisation. Of course, I have to examine them, but from what I saw at first reading it would appear that they are highly constructive.

Mr. Y. W. LIU (China): The Administering Authority states in its report, with regard to land legislation and land tenure in the Territory, that large areas were reserved during the colonial regime in order to provide for future economic and population growth. To what extent was this policy applied to the fertile valleys of the Giuba and Uebi Scebeli rivers where indigenous peoples practised intense cultivation?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): Pre-war legislation, which was modified to a certain extent in accordance with the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement, contemplated the establishment of what we call in Italian "compensorous regions" -- not too great in area -- in which, after ascertaining that the land was not someone's property or was not already being cultivated, concessions might subsequently be granted.

What were those zones? Those zones were divided, and some were reserved for colonization by the indigenous people. Another part was reserved for colonization by Europeans. Both parts were to be handed out in lots. I was not there at the time, but I understand that commissions were formed which went on the spot and ascertained that certain lands were lying completely fallow. These lands were reserved for colonization. Irrigation was developed and canals were dug. That took place in Giuba. Pumping stations were set up to transform the fallow and arid lands which were completely unused into lands which today are capable of extensive agriculture, such as is required for the production of bananas, ground-nuts and similar items. Those are not latifundia or anything of that kind. I made some calculations and I ascertained that they amounted to about 2 per cent of the cultivable land in the Territory.

Mr. LIU (China): I wish to thank the Special Representative for the answers he gave. I shall submit some questions in writing at a later date.

Mr. MUNOZ (Argentina)(Interpretation from Spanish): There has been considerable discussion at today's meeting of the economic aspects concerning the Territory of Somaliland. Before ending today's meeting I wish to clarify some of the questions that have been asked.

Obviously, the resources of a country have to be developed and this must be done prior to arriving at any independence. Mention has been made today of the investment of private capital, and it is that aspect that I wish to refer to now. In his statement the representative of Colombia referred to the question of concessions. In that connexion he cited a statement made by the representative of India in the General Assembly according to which concessions could not be granted for more than ten years, which is the length of the Italian trusteeship over Somaliland. As far as I am concerned the statement of a representative in the General Assembly, although it may not have been challenged by any representative, does not in any way become the law of the United Nations. It is not a decision, nor anything else, as far as this Organization is concerned. I do not think that that was the interpretation which the representative of Colombia wished to give to the statement he cited.

Having clarified this question, I should like to ask the Special Representative a question which concerns the time-limit which might be considered sufficient to cover the economic needs in order that private capital might be invested in Somaliland. How long does the Special Representative think the time-limit should be so that private capital would be ^{is} invested? It obviously must be more than ten years, because that time-limit/the reason it has been impossible up to now.

Another aspect of this question is the possibility of profit being derived from the investments. How long would the concessions have to be in order for them to be acceptable to investors of private capital in Somaliland?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative)(Interpretation from Spanish): This question has given us considerable work. Up to now, of course, we have merely considered these questions on the basis of studies. I must say that since the Italian administration arrived in Somaliland no concessions were given to anyone -- not for one year, two years, five years, ten years or twenty years. Before granting any concessions, we wanted to clarify the opinion of the Advisory Council, the Trusteeship Council and the Territorial Council. We decided that the best thing to do was not to give any concessions even for short terms such as two or three years.

As regards amortization, we must distinguish between agriculture and industry. Then within the heading of industry we have to separate the industries, because the mining industry requires a completely different treatment.

In connexion with the mining industry, I want to say that up to now no great wealth has been found in the sub-soil. Perhaps tomorrow some private investor might become interested in the discovery of some mineral somewhere in the Territory. In that case, we would have to prepare some legislation on that question. That is why we asked for the help of the Advisory Council, and I believe the Advisory Council itself is considering this matter. We also asked for help from the Territorial Council. The Territorial Council met and at its last session it discussed this matter at two meetings and unanimously decided

that, as far as mineral concessions were concerned, a longer term had to be considered than the ten-year period. However, there was a difference of opinion between the representatives of certain political parties and the representatives of other parties. The representatives of certain political parties based their views on the possibility of a forty-year concession; the other parties felt that the period should be fifty years. However, I want to repeat that we have decided on nothing. We are still awaiting the advice of the Advisory Council and also the help of the Trusteeship Council if it can give us that help.

With regard to concessions for agriculture,, we have not raised this question in either of the two Councils, the Advisory Council or the Territorial Council. But, in the permanent committee of the Territorial Council, we put out a feeler with regard to the intentions of the population, as to their attitude on how long the normal time limit should be for the renting of the lands. I talk about renting lands because, for other concessions, according to the Trusteeship Agreement, we have to ask for the agreement of the Territorial Council, which requires a two-thirds vote on that kind of question. There is a general opinion in the permanent committee of the Territorial Council that for the renting of this land the time limit should be between fifteen and twenty-five years.

As far as industry is concerned, no specific concession is necessary. You can talk of this time for amortization of capital, but this varies according to the industries themselves more than the concession or anything of that sort.

Mr. MUNOZ (Argentina) (interpretation from Spanish): I should like to thank the Special Representative not only for having clarified the point but for having replied to my question in my own language.

I should also like to have clarification in regard to a point which has already been raised by the representative of New Zealand. It has to do with the question of cattle. I fully understand the psychological reasons why the indigenous population does not want to sell its cattle and why it considers it to be property that must be retained. But there is one aspect which I do not quite understand. There being famine in the land, why has a sector of the population not tried to compensate for it by taking advantage of its possession of cattle, by processing the meat and thus making up for the food shortages? Is there some other reason for the reluctance of the indigenous population to kill the cattle?

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from Spanish): The food deficit really refers to some products that cannot be replaced by others -- for example, wheat flour, tea, coffee, butter. It is very difficult to substitute other foodstuffs for these. The cattle were very useful as food during the war years. Under the British occupation, and also during the years prior to that,

the question of the resettlement and rehabilitation of Somaliland was very important, and it was by means of the cattle that they managed to keep body and soul together. There were many things that they were able to obtain from the cattle -- not only meat, but milk and butter. The Somalis eat a lot of butter and other dairy products, such as camel milk and cow milk. This is another reason why the indigenous population was reluctant to kill the cattle.

During one meeting at which we referred to the export of cattle, because there had been many requests for cattle from Kenya and Uganda, it was the opinion of the indigenous population that during the war they had been able to live somewhat better than they might have expected because of the wealth provided by their cattle. They were able to obtain more butter, more milk and somewhat more cheese to make up for the food deficit that they had, and therefore they were reluctant to kill the cattle now.

Mr. HOLTE-CASTELLO (Colombia) (interpretation from Spanish): I should like to clarify one point for the Council. It has to do with a remark made by the representative of Argentina. When I quoted the statement of the Indian representative in the Fourth Committee, which was in no way challenged by any delegation, that did not mean, as the representative of Argentina has pointed out, that the ideas expressed by the Indian representative became law. I agree with the representative of Argentina: my intention was not to make that statement a law or to quote it as a law. I merely wanted to present to the Council the conflict that might exist between the interpretation of Article 14 of the draft Trusteeship Agreement and the interpretation of Article 3, which obliges the Administering Authority to develop the Territory.

The Council as a whole, as well as my delegation, decided not to take any decision when the Administering Authority asked us to give it information. We did not take any decision for a very specific reason.

First of all, the Colombian delegation does not feel that the Advisory Council can give any guarantees with regard to the interpretation of a Trusteeship Agreement which is limited to a period of ten years. That is why I said the following in one of the final paragraphs of the rather long statement which I made earlier in the meeting:

"The Colombian delegation realizes how desirable it is to solve this problem with a view to the possible transformation of the Somali economy and, hence, of the life of its inhabitants, and is anxious to learn what position the Trusteeship Council, as the supervising authority, is likely to adopt on this question, taking into account the special nature of trusteeship in Somaliland."

Perhaps I did not make myself clear. The Special Representative has just clarified the question. The advice which we were requesting referred to riches which might exist in the form of minerals. For example, one of the possibilities for saving the national economy of Spain would be oil, but the great companies of the world could not exploit the possibilities until they had some definite guarantees.

These are the doubts which my delegation has on this subject. I felt that some clarification was necessary.

Mr. CARGO (United States of America): I realize that the Special Representative has answered questions for a very long time this afternoon, but, if it is the President's intention to continue the meeting, I should like to put a few questions at this stage.

My first question pertains to page 4 of the Annual Report, and specifically to the question of the boundaries of Somaliland under Italian Administration. At that point of the report, reference is made to the question of defining the boundaries between Somaliland under Italian Administration and Somaliland under British Administration, and also between Somaliland under Italian Administration and Ethiopia.

My question is whether, since the publication of this Report, which I understand takes us up to the first of the current year, there have been any significant developments which the Special Representative or the representative of Italy would wish to bring to the attention of the Council.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): Unfortunately, there has been no progress thus far as regards British Somaliland. We are in contact, however, with the British Government. This represents only a small sector of the undefined boundaries. It is just a few miles long, and I am sure it will not be difficult to reach agreement.

That is not the main problem. The main problem concerns the provisional administrative line between Somaliland under Italian Administration and Ethiopia. The Report points out that conversations are to be undertaken between a commission of the Administering Authority and the Government of Ethiopia. Italy has no diplomatic relations ^{at the moment} with Ethiopia. As Special Representative, I wish to express the hope that these relations will be resumed as soon as feasible. Once they are resumed, one of the first problems to be solved will be the question of the boundary between Somaliland under Italian Administration and Ethiopia.

Mr. CARGO (United States of America): My second question relates to the general subject of political parties in the Trust Territory. Reference is made to this subject in general terms on page 39 of the Report and elsewhere throughout that Report. The Special Representative has already, in his replies to various questions, referred to participation by political parties -- for example, in the Territorial Council. I wonder, however, whether he would be good enough to describe in general terms the existing party structure in the Trust Territory and comment on the role played by political parties in connexion with local government, as well as with a central administration.

I may say, parenthetically, that I was very much interested in and struck by the Special Representative's remark that many of the present leaders of the Somali Youth League are attending the school for special training in political and administrative work in the Territory.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French):
When we arrived, the political parties in Somaliland were divided into two groups, the Somali Youth League and the Conferenza. One or two parties have left the Conferenza, the Unione Africani and the Mirifle group. There is no longer a single Conferenza Party. There are instead several parties. Some of them are purely local in character. The Progressive League of Midjiertein is a party which is rather important in Northern Somaliland in the Midjiertein region, but there are no branches elsewhere in Somaliland. The same is true of the Progressive Party of Mirifle. The Mirifle corresponds to the ethnic groups of tribes. This party includes the elements of these tribes which are most progressive and forward-looking. They wish to replace the tribal organization with a more modern territorial political organization.

However, there are other parties that adhere to the Conferenza, such as the Unione Africani which has branches all over Somaliland, north and south and even in Mogadiscio.

On the other hand, of course, there is the Somali Youth League. It is generally known that the Somali Youth League adopted an attitude contrary to Italian Administration. In my first speech when I arrived in Mogadiscio, I said that, while Italy was thankful to its friends, it bore no malice toward those who ^{had} opposed the establishment of an Italian Administration. All would have equal rights, there would be no discrimination, no distinction or differentiation in treatment. I said that we hoped to co-operate completely with the Somali Youth League. With great pleasure, I note that we are on the right road. Things that appeared entirely impossible a year or nine months ago have actually occurred. Not everywhere, but in a number of places something has happened which has filled me with great satisfaction. There was a telegram which I cited in reply to a petition which I got some weeks ago from Baidoa. There were a number of disputes between the parties in Baidoa. However, some days ago they had the anniversary celebration of the Somali Youth League and the representatives of all the other parties and of the Italian Administration sent delegates to help them with the celebration. I received a telegram signed by the Secretaries of the three parties at Baidoa, the Somali Youth League, the Hisbia Dighil Mirifle and another party -- a thing that would have been completely impossible a year ago. All of them

rejoiced at the fact that they were celebrating together and over the peace and tranquility in Balboa. Therefore, I submit that we are on the good road, the road of co-operation and understanding.

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As I told the Somali Youth League leaders, the Italian Administration is happy to receive criticism. The Somali Youth League has an important role to play, the role of opposition. Every democratic regime needs a loyal opposition. I should not at all be happy to get "yes-men" parties who would engage in the iconography of the Italian Administration, who would only sing its praises. That would be entirely intolerable. Criticism in good faith is constructive, desirable and, indeed, necessary. Therefore, the leaders of the Somali Youth League, as well as the leaders of the other parties, are welcome to come with criticisms, complaints, requests or anything else. Whenever possible, I will intervene to correct the situation or give explanations about the situation which they might have regarded as an abuse but which, in fact, might not be an abuse at all but a problem.

Therefore, once again I state that I think we are on the good road towards democracy and mutual understanding. For almost a year there have been no disturbances at all. The parties have not taken up any position beyond the limits of the law, even where they oppose the Italian Administration. That is a welcome development, a development, indeed, which a year ago I myself would hardly have believed possible. So far as the Italian Administration is concerned, I am at the disposal of the representative if he wishes to ask any further questions on the subject of parties, a subject which, indeed, is most interesting.

Mr. CARGO (United States of America): Again, I think the Special Representative for his most illuminating reply. There is one further point on the same matter which I should like to have clarified, if I might. As I understand the structure of government in the Trust Territory at the present stage, the use of advisory councils is current, both at the territory-wide level-- the Territorial Council -- and in the Residencies. As I understand it, part of the composition of these advisory councils, both at the territory-wide level and in the Residencies, consists of representatives of political parties. My question is whether the Special Representative finds there is a general willingness on the part of all political parties to assist in the work of the advisory councils at the various levels throughout the Territory.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (Interpretation from French): This varies in the different parts of the country. The political parties have displayed an understanding of the objectives behind the setting up of territorial councils which has gone beyond the tribal organization. It is the forward-looking sections of the population that have displayed the best understanding of the importance of the territorial and residency councils. They are co-operating with gusto in this work. I could cite the Secretary of the Residency Council of Kismayo, and in certain other regions also the most active persons are, of course, those who are members of political parties. As I have said, they have understood our objectives. Unfortunately, I must say that their following in the country does not correspond to their stage of mental advancement, because the tribal organization is still there as a matrix for a large section of the population. This organization is stronger than the political parties in a great number of regions in the country.

Mr. GARGO (United States of America): My next question also is in part for the purpose of bringing the information available to the Council up to date and more or less synthesising various comments which the Special Representative has already made. I wonder whether the Special Representative could review or describe briefly the activities which have been carried out by the Territorial Council since it was established. I appreciate that this was just at the period at which the current Report ended.

I think he has already made some reference to the sessions of the Territorial Council in which such matters as mineral concessions were considered. I wonder if he would be good enough, therefore, to describe the work which is now being carried out by the Territorial Council in order that we may have a specific point of reference. I wonder whether the Territorial Council has yet reached the point envisaged in Article 4 of the Declaration of Constitutional Principles, where it is normally utilized in consultation as a consultative body in the legislative process.

Mr. FORNARI (Special Representative) (interpretation from French): I should prefer to make a specific reply, and I therefore should like to refer to my documents and at a subsequent meeting give a more precise outline of the work of the territorial councils, telling of the problems with which they deal. For instance, I cited the question of mineral concessions just a few minutes ago. There was also the problem of language to be used in education. There were other items of discussion such as the power of pardon of the Administrator and the power of commutation of sentences. Similar items were taken up, but I should like to give a more complete outline rather than give snatches of topics that were taken up.

As regards article 4, I can answer forthwith in the affirmative. If the representative of the United States will recall that legislative power is exercised by the Administrator after having listened to the Territorial Council, I must say that since 1 January, I have signed no legislative ordinances whatsoever without listening to the advice of the Territorial Council. Consequently, article 4 is already in force and is being implemented entirely.

Mr. CARGO (United States of America): Those are all the questions I have at the moment, and I again thank the Special Representative for his answers.

The PRESIDENT: As no other delegation wishes to ask any further questions this evening, I shall now thank the Special Representative for the assistance he has given to the Council today. He will be available on Monday to continue his good work.

As we have already begun work on the Scraliland report ahead of our schedule, there has not been time for the members to put in written questions and instead oral questions have generally been asked. In order to save the time of the Council,

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however, I hope that delegations will put their questions in writing as much as possible and hand them in early enough in order to permit written replies to be prepared by the Administering Authority. In this connexion, I wish to remind the Council of the request I made earlier today that written questions regarding the Tanganyika report be handed in by Wednesday, 13 June, by two o'clock. The Council will now adjourn until Monday, 11 June, at 2 p.m. when we will continue with the work of the examination of the report on Somaliland.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.